

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 33 has been rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Andis '616. The examiner has made note that Andis shows a lower plate with angled surface at the front cutting portion that form a groove. It is further stated by the examiner that the groove engages or contacts the upper cutting teeth.

Claim 33 has been amended to place it in better condition for allowance. The claim has been amended to replace "for engagement with" with "to receive" in line 3 of said claim. This amended uses the words in the specification as originally filed on page 9, line 22 in paragraph [0055].

The Andis '616 device has a blade carrier 26 for attachment under the cutting blade using screws. The instant invention for the comb element 32 as best viewed in Figure 24 has a groove notch 34 formed in the comb teeth as claimed in claim 33 to receive a front edge of a plurality of upper teeth of a cutting head. The Andis '616 art does not disclose or anticipate any such method of comb engagement with the comb teeth. It appears to teach away from such a clip on attachment method since it uses a screw fastening method. The word receive as defined in Webster's Dictionary means: "to permit to enter" and "to support the weight or pressure of". For all of these reasons it is believed the instant invention claim 33 is distinguished from Andis '616.

Claim 34 has been rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Andis '616. The examiner has made note that the coating of teeth is old in the art and absent a showing of criticality the modification appears obvious. This claim is now dependent on what is believed to be an allowable base claim and therefore should be allowed.

Claim 35 has been found allowable.

It is believed with the clarifying amendments that the uniqueness of the instant invention is not disclosed in the cited art. Applicant believes that the unique solution although being simple in its implementation was not obvious to those involved in the art of clipper blade comb design.

Accordingly it is believed that the rejection under 35 USC Section 102 (b) has been overcome

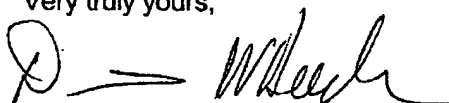
by amending of the claims and the remarks, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the cause for rejections and objections is requested. Allowance of claims 33 through 35 is earnestly solicited.

No additional fee for claims is seen to be required.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



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DWB/ab